
Minutes Human Relations Commission October 11, 2016

Minutes of the HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION held on Tuesday, October 11, 2016, 6:00 p.m., at the City Hall, 3rd Floor Conference Room, 31 E. Fifth Street, Tempe, Arizona.

(MEMBERS) Present:

Don Calender
Dino Castelli
Belinda Chiu
Ira King, Jr.
Armando Faustini, Jr.
Hannah Auckland
Jeanne Powers
Carl Hermanns
Rochelle Johns

(MEMBERS) Absent:

Chris Houk
Stefanie Garcia

City Staff Present:

Ginny Belousek, Diversity Manager
Megan Hutchison, Diversity Executive Assistant

Call to Order

Chair Chiu called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.

Agenda Item 1 – Public Appearances

There were no public appearances.

Agenda Item 2 – Consideration of Minutes: HRC – August 9, 2016 Minutes and August 31, 2016 Special Meeting Minutes (Motion Required)

MOTION: Commissioner Calender moved to ACCEPT the minutes of August 9, 2016 and August 31, 2016

Commissioner King voiced his concern on the wording of the minutes of August 9th, page 2, paragraph 9 regarding the body cameras. The minutes read, “Commissioner King commented that he was pleased to hear that the cameras would not always be on for not only privacy sake, but battery life. It was asked as to the quality of the cameras that the Police Department is using.” Commissioner King felt that the verbiage did not communicate what he was really trying to say. He would like the minutes to be amended to say, “Commissioner King commented that

he was pleased to hear that the cameras would not always be turned on for not only privacy sake, but battery life. Camera activation during a service contact is assumed. He further asked about the quality of the cameras that the police department is using.”

Commissioner King explained his verbiage request by giving a scenario regarding a possible invasion of privacy if the cameras were to be on all the time. Commissioner Calender pointed out that items can be blurred out if and when the video would be shown publicly. It was then discussed as to the wording of “service contact” in the proposed minutes. The commission agreed it should read “police contact”. The minutes were amended to read: “Commissioner King commented that he was pleased to hear that the cameras would not always be turned on for not only privacy sake, but battery life. Camera activation during a police contact is assumed. He further asked about the quality of the cameras that the police department is using.”

SECOND: Commissioner Castelli
DECISION: Minutes unanimously APPROVED

Agenda Item 3 – Boards & Commissions Annual Report for HRC – Ginny Belousek (motion required)

Ginny Belousek reported that the Mayor is asking for every Board & Commission to prepare an Annual Report and submit it to the City Clerk’s Office by November 14, 2016. This report is to be approved by the Commission.

Ginny proceeded to review the Annual Report with the commission. After discussion the commission requested that the following be added to the report: addition of the August 31st meeting as a reason for cancelling the September 16th meeting, Challenge Day to be expanded upon to include number of students, number of volunteers, and number of HRC commissioners in attendance, addition of Challenge Day presentation to Council, add a list of events that the HRC attended and supported, ie: LGBT & Muslim Community forum and Councilmember Shapira’s Community Policing, extend upon Unity Walk to include the change to evenings to be more inclusive, addition to goals with the creation of outreach training for LGBT youth and disconnected youth, addition of Muslim community outreach and partnerships with police. Ginny Belousek will make the requested changes to the Annual Report and it will be voted upon at the next HRC meeting in November.

Agenda Item 4 – Strategic Plan Update – Belinda Chiu

Ginny Belousek presented the Strategic Plan to the commission. It was decided that the commission would take the document home for further review and the plan would be discussed at the next HRC meeting in November.

Agenda Item 5 – Diversity Office Update – Ginny Belousek

Belinda Chiu reported on the current session of Diversity Dialogues. Due to the low number of teens who have been attending, the groups were combined. Belinda mentioned that Chief Moir was a guest speaker at one of the sessions and that there has also been a police officer, Rich Monteton, who participated in the program. Rich Monteton oversees the training programs that all the police officers go through. He shared with the group the staggering fact that barbers get

more hours of training than police officers. He also mentioned the police department is really focusing on how to make police officers more resilient. He will be attending a Mindfulness Workshop to see how to bring that into the training programs.

Commissioner Hermanns asked if the dialogue group discussed the topic of SRO's, School Resource Officers, and is their training unique?

Commissioner King commended the Tempe Police Department and their quality of SRO's in the Tempe schools. He also commented that there needs to be a dialogue about the SRO roles and the relationship between police officers and the community.

Commissioner Chiu added that there should be more conversations, more dialogues, and more opportunities where people can bring up questions regarding the SRO's and any other topics regarding the police.

Ginny offered to speak with Assistant Chief Carbajal next month regarding SRO training.

Commissioner Chiu also mentioned that the Diversity Dialogue program will have a program potluck on their final night, October 24, at 6pm at the Tempe Library. The HRC is invited to attend and can take the opportunity to talk with Sgt. Monteton regarding SRO training.

Ginny gave an update on the upcoming MLK breakfast at the Buttes. The MLK subcommittee selected Ahmed Daniels as the speaker. He is the former president of CAIR. The nominations are currently being accepted for the Diversity Awards.

Ginny gave an update on Challenge Day. The schools have been much more involved this year as they have their experience from last year. They filled many of the adult volunteer spots with teachers.

Commissioner Castelli inquired on the qualifications needed to participate in Challenge Day. Ginny Belousek responded there are no qualifications but dance moves are encouraged. The Challenge Day facilitators guide every moment of the day.

Ginny reported on the City of Tempe MEI score, which is how municipalities are graded for inclusive LGBT practices. This is the fourth year the city has been rated and the third year of scoring 100. This year's MEI was heavily weighted on transgender benefits. This is something the City is already looking in to changing and will benefit us in next year's scoring.

Commissioner Calender asked if the HRC would be invited to present the MEI to the Council or if there would be a presentation of some sort.

Ginny Belousek will look in to that and let the commission know. If there is to be a meeting, the HRC would be invited.

Agenda Item 6 – Announcement of Next Meeting

Commissioner Chiu announced that the next meeting will be on November 8, 2016.

**Motion made by Commissioner Calender to adjourn the meeting
Second by Commissioner King
Meeting adjourned at 7:16p.m.**

Prepared by: Megan Hutchison

Reviewed by: Ginny Belousek